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12 July 1973

**MEMORANDUM FOR: General Allen**

**SUBJECT : Some Implications of the National Intelligence Office**

**REFERENCE : Draft Memorandum for USIB Members  
"National Intelligence Office" (MCA-44A)**

1. It is evident that the Office of National Estimates will be replaced by something similar to the National Intelligence Office described in the referenced memorandum. Mr. Colby has made this clear in conversation with Senator Symington. You have not asked for my comment on the Latimer proposals but here are a few thoughts anyway about the larger implications.

2. According to the proposal, each of the National Intelligence Officers will be responsible for provision of designated intelligence products, the identification of consumer needs for such products, and the identification of "uncertainties requiring additional collection or analysis."

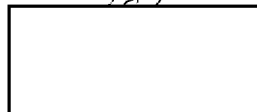
3. I am particularly interested in consideration of what happens once these uncertainties are identified. Does the Community respond on an ad hoc basis or in some coordinated fashion? Who develops collection strategies if a coordinated (interAgency, intersystem) approach is required? Who monitors progress? If present resources are not adequate, what is the mechanism that ties the NIO into the resource allocation process?

4. If the NIO performs the task of identifying gaps, the resource allocation and management process must be responsive. This makes it critically necessary that the programming process -- and the responsible officers in the Comptroller's Group -- proceed with full information from the NIO and close involvement with his activities.

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5. Because the NIO proposal affects other Groups within the IC Staff -- and notably the Product Review Group -- I believe we should discuss the larger question of the impact of the NIO on the IC Staff mission, role and task. It might be useful to do this at the forthcoming Planning Session. Naturally I have some specific ideas which I believe are practical and creative. Others may also have useful views.



DCI/IC/CCG [redacted] (7/12/73)

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